

vice-president, and president of the City of Passaic's Democratic Party. Additionally, she served as a County Committeewoman and a Ward leader.

Mel will be married 37 years come this May to John Currier, who is a retired Deputy Chief of the Passaic Fire Department. Mel and John have a son, Joseph, who is classified as autistic and had to attend special schools and classes. Joe has since overcome many of his autistic tendencies, thanks in part to his mother's interest in the "Saturday Group."

Mel is President of the Learning Disabled Young Adult Group, Inc., which oversees her son Joe's "Saturday Group." The group's Board of Directors set policy, disseminate information to the public, and hold fundraisers and many other events.

Mel is also very active in her church, Saint Nicholas' Roman Catholic Church on Washington Street in Passaic. She serves as a Eucharistic Minister, leads the congregation at the 4:00 p.m. mass in their Hymns and responses, and sings at the 11:00 a.m. mass in the church choir.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Mel's family, friends, and colleagues, and the County of Passaic in recognizing Carmela "Mel" Currier's many outstanding and invaluable contributions to our community, and in wishing her continued health and happiness in her retirement.

HONORING EDWARD AND JESSIE FREEMAN, SR. ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Edward and Jessie Freeman, Sr. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Edward and Jessie on their special day.

What a remarkable accomplishment to be able to celebrate a marriage that has endured for so many years. The bond that brought them together has remained and grown over the years. May they always share the love and joy they feel today.

In an era where marriages are too often short lived, it is wonderful to see a couple who have endured the trials and tribulations that can cause a marriage to fail. The love and commitment they have demonstrated should serve as an inspiration to couples everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, what an achievement to be married for 50 years. It is an honor to represent a couple like the Freeman's. I am proud to call them my constituents.

IN HONOR OF EQUAL PAY DAY,
APRIL 3, 1998

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the Coalition of Labor Union Women as they join together to raise awareness of Equal Pay Day. Their dedication to fair

wages in the work place deserves to be commended.

Throughout America's history, men, women, and children have fought for fair and equitable treatment in the workplace. Advocates for child labor laws and unions have fought to protect workers' bargaining rights, wages, and working conditions. However, women are still subject to workplace discrimination where their wages are concerned. On an average, women earn 74 cents for every dollar a man earns. This results in a loss of over a quarter of a million dollars throughout a 30-year career, a loss that not only affects weekly paychecks but also retirement.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 in conjunction with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits wage discrimination for equal or substantially equal work on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, and national origin. However, to the detriment of the worker, wage laws are not strictly enforced and discrimination suits are difficult to prove.

As communities, families, friends and colleagues, we must all work together to fight for fair wages for all working people. All Americans have the right to equitable pay regardless of their race or sex. Thanks to organizations such as the Coalition of Labor Union Women, this issue will not go unnoticed. I ask my colleagues to join me in lending their support for fair wages for women.

IN HONOR OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINORITY STUDENT PROGRAM AT RUTGERS SCHOOL OF LAW-NEWARK

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Minority Student Program at Rutgers School of Law-Newark for its 30th Anniversary. In celebration, Roger I. Abrams, dean of the law school, and the Minority Student Program sponsored the Annual Spring Banquet at the Hilton Gateway in Newark, New Jersey on Saturday, April 18, 1998.

The School of Law-Newark at Rutgers is committed to the diversity of its law school community and to the diversity of the legal profession. Since its establishment in 1968, MSP has pursued a policy of equal opportunity for those who have been historically underrepresented in law schools and in the legal profession. Over 1000 students of color and students from disadvantaged backgrounds have graduated from the law school.

The law school historically has attracted students who want to make a difference in the world in which they live. These students represent every ethnic group and nationality. Graduates now make important social and political contributions to their community as judges, presidential appointees, law professors, and prominent members of the bar.

It is a honor and a pleasure to be part of this celebration and to recognize the dedication and commitment of the Minority Student Program at Rutgers School of Law-Newark. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to this remarkable program.

TRIBUTE TO FRED KORT

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday of this week, representatives of the Congress, the Administration, and the Supreme Court will gather in the Great Rotunda of this building for the National Civic Commemoration to remember the victims of the Holocaust. This annual national memorial service pays tribute to the six million Jews who died through senseless and systematic Nazi terror and brutality. At this somber commemoration, we will also honor those heroic American and other Allied forces who liberated the Nazi concentration camps over half a century ago.

Mr. Speaker, this past week Fortune Magazine (April 13, 1998) devoted several pages to an article entitled "Everything in History was Against Them," which profiles five survivors of Nazi savagery who came to the United States penniless and built fortunes here in their adopted homeland. It is significant, Mr. Speaker, that four of these five are residents of my home state of California. My dear friend Fred Kort of Los Angeles was one of the five that Fortune Magazine selected to highlight in this extraordinary article, and I want to pay tribute to him today.

Fred Kort, like the other four singled out by Fortune Magazine, has a unique story, but there are common threads to these five tales of personal success. The story of the penniless immigrant who succeeds in America is a familiar theme in our nation's lore, but these stories involve a degree of courage and determination unmatched in the most inspiring of Horatio Alger's stories.

These men were, in the words of author Carol J. Loomis, "Holocaust survivors in the most rigorous sense," they "actually experienced the most awful horrors of the Holocaust, enduring a Nazi death camp or a concentration camp or one of the ghettos that were essentially holding pens for those camps."

They picked themselves up "from the very cruelest of circumstances, they traveled to America and prospered as businessmen. They did it, to borrow a phrase from Elie Wiesel, when everything in history was against them." They were teenagers or younger when World War II began. They lost six years of their youth and six years of education. "They were deprived of liberty and shorn of dignity. All lost relatives, and most lost one or both parents. Each . . . was forced to live constantly with the threat of death and the knowledge that next time he might be 'thumbed' not into a line of prisoners allowed to live, but into another line headed for the gas chambers." Through luck and the sheer will to survive, these were some of the very fortunate who lived to tell the story of that horror.

The second part of their stories is also similar—a variant of the American dream. These courageous men came to the United States with "little English and less money." Despite their lack of friends and mentors, they found the drive to succeed. As Loomis notes, "many millions who were unencumbered by the heavy, exhausting baggage of the Holocaust had the same opportunities and never reached out to seize them as these men did." Their